

Family Independence Program

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# EARNED INCOME REPORT

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**August 2008**  
**Statewide Implementation**

*Prepared by:*

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# Earned Income Report

Data for the Earned Income Report is obtained from the Department of Human Service's Client Information Management System (CIMS). The information is point-in-time data and is obtained at the beginning of each month. This data reflects the case transactions that occurred during the previous month.

Due to the nature of the public assistance caseload, the data displayed here represents a picture of a population that is constantly changing. Families move on and off public assistance, gain or lose employment and many move frequently.

For purposes of this report the formula for determining the number of cases required to work is:

***(FIP cases) minus (cases open less than 60 days) minus (Work First deferred cases, i.e., those not required to work).***

The Michigan Department of Human Service (DHS) assists families in becoming self supportive. By involving the adult members of the household in employment and/or self-sufficiency-related activities leading to self sufficiency, DHS hopes to help restore self-confidence and a sense of self-worth. A tool used to achieve this goal is the Personal Responsibility Plan and Family Contract (PRPFC). This agreement is completed by the client and the caseworker to mutually arrive at a plan which meets the family's goals for self-sufficiency and outlines the family's and the Department's responsibilities. It is required by both federal and state law.

All Family Independence Program (FIP) and Refugee Assistance Program (RAP) eligible adults and 16-and 17-year-olds not in high school full time must be referred to the Jobs, Education and Training (JET) Program or other employment service provider, unless deferred or engaged in activities that meet participation requirements. JET is a program administered by the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth (DLEG), Michigan Works System. The individual sites where clients report are the Michigan Works! Agencies (MWAs). The JET program serves employers and job seekers to ensure that employers have skilled workers and workers have good jobs that provide economic self-sufficiency.

Clients are made aware that public assistance is limited to 48 months to meet their family's needs and that it is their responsibility to achieve self-sufficiency. Information on ways to achieve independence, direct support services, non-compliance penalties, and good cause reasons, is initially shared by DHS when the client applies for cash assistance.

Jobs, Education and Training (JET) program requirements, education and training opportunities, and assessments will be covered by the JET case manager when a mandatory JET participant is referred at application.

All Work Eligible Individuals (WEIs), unless deferred, disregarded or working 40 hours per week, must engage in employment at or above minimum wage or participate in other MWA approved activities. [For specific policy guidelines and reasons for deferrals, see Policy Eligibility Manual Item 230A.]

Additional resources are being developed within the department as well as efforts to coordinate with other departments such as Transportation, MSHDA, and other community agencies. In addition DHS staff will be working with clients to eliminate barriers to employment and promote independence.

Data Source: SW-210.

**NOTE:** The absolute integrity of the data (beginning with 11/03 data) cannot be assured until systems are updated. There are problems with the employment codes. Also, effective in the month of August, 2008, the Bridges computer eligibility system will be rolled out to various counties throughout the state. Comparable data may not be available after implementation.

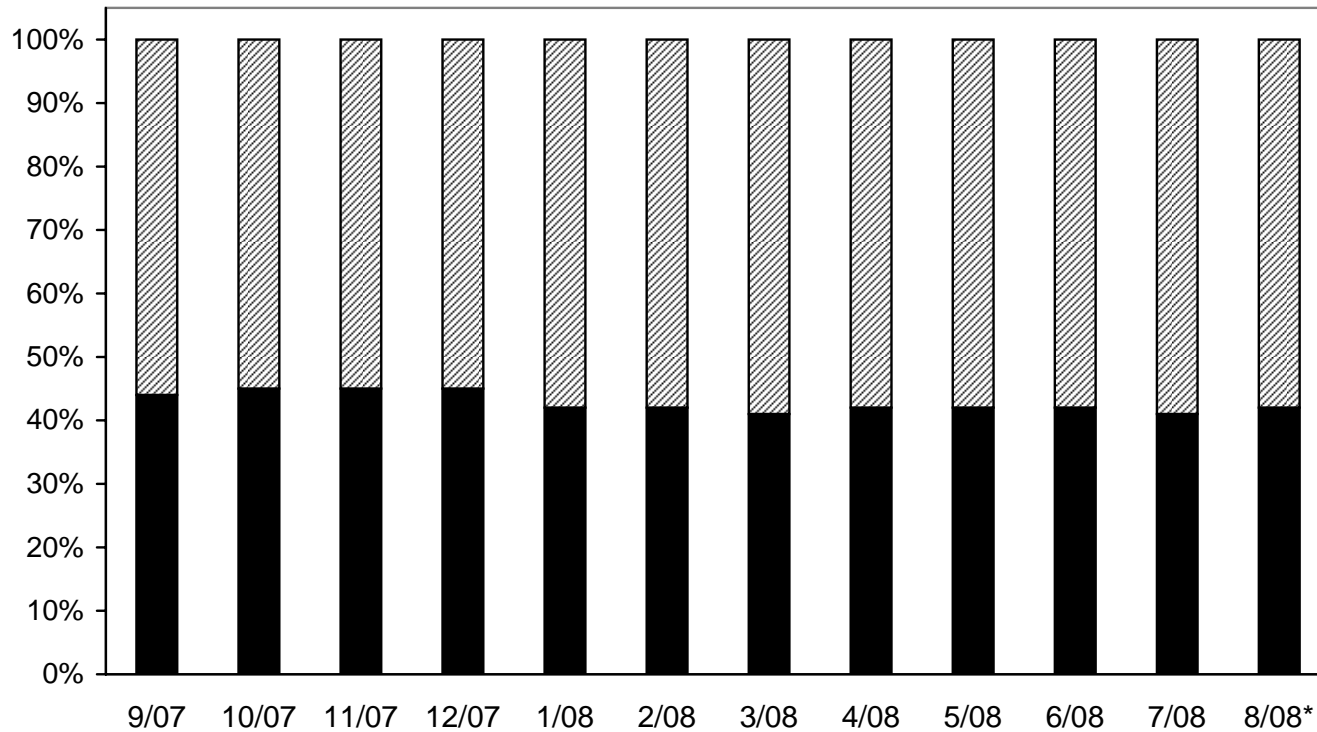
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# STATE TOTAL

## Target Group Cases: With and Without Earned Income

### Point-in-Time Data

*Percentage of Cases with Earned Income*



Percent Without Earned Income	56%	55%	55%	55%	58%	58%	59%	58%	58%	58%	59%	58%
Percent With Earned Income	44%	45%	45%	45%	42%	42%	41%	42%	42%	42%	41%	42%
Cases Without Earned Income	16,588	15,815	15,510	15,327	15,911	15,866	15,267	15,030	14,816	14,728	14,779	13,707
Cases With Earned Income	13,041	12,849	12,660	12,300	11,650	11,395	10,822	10,708	10,757	10,542	10,329	9,963
TOTAL Target Group Cases	29,629	28,664	28,170	27,627	27,561	27,261	26,089	25,738	25,573	25,270	25,108	23,670

\*State totals do not include Calhoun County due to the implementation of Bridges.

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